

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 7 and 13 – 19 are in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5 – 7, 13, 14, and 17 – 19 were previously presented; claims 8 – 12 and 20 – 34 have been canceled; and claims 3, 4, 15, and 16 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claims 1 and 13 are the independent claims herein.

No amendments are submitted herewith. Accordingly, new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 – 7 and 13 – 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tatchell et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,999,611. This rejection is traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits claim 1 relates to a system including a first telephone; a plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone, the first telephone capable of managing separate telephone calls simultaneously conducted by the first telephone and the plurality of other telephones associated with the first telephone; and a computing device coupled to the first telephone, the computing device to determine a telephone call received by the first telephone from a first one of the plurality of other telephones is intended for a second one of the plurality of other telephones based on user-specified rules and to selectively route telephone call signals of the telephone call received by the first telephone and intended for the second one of the plurality of other telephones to the first telephone and the plurality of other telephones based on user-specified rules. Thus, it is clear that the claimed computing device is provided to determine a telephone call received by the first telephone from a first one of the plurality of other telephones is intended for a second one of the plurality of other telephones.

Claim 13, though directed to a method, is worded similar to claim 1, including the aspect of the first telephone receiving the telephone call.

Though it is respectfully submitted here that claims 1 and 13 both clearly claim the first telephone receives the telephone call, Applicant further submits support for this aspect of the claims is fully provided by the Specification at, for example, paragraphs [0078], [0083], and [0089] in U.S. Pat. App. No.2005/0135594 A1 corresponding to the original specification filed with the Office.

However, in contrast to claims 1 and 13, the cited and relied upon Tatchell actually discloses a “subscriber interface operating as a Personal Agent” wherein the “Personal Agent enables the subscriber to access and activate telephone network services using voice recognition technology”. (Tatchell, Abstract) Tatchell further explains,

By making use of the subscriber's profile, the Personal Agent can intercept incoming calls to any one of the subscriber's predetermined telephone network addresses. Thus, if the subscriber has selected telephone sets at locations number 1 to number n (FIG. 1) to form part of his or her profile, any time the associated number is dialed by calling party 22 shown in FIG. 1 via remote telephone switching center 12 or calling party 23 (FIG. 2a) also serviced by telephone switching center 10, the Personal Agent will intercept the call. When the number dialed by calling party 22 or 23 is routed and received at telephone switching center 10, a verification of the called number is made by the telephone switching center database 19 by call controller 16 before establishing a link between trunk circuits 15 and line circuits 14 of the called subscriber. If the incoming call is directed to any one of the Personal Agent subscriber's selected telephone network addresses, the call controller 16 establishes a call path from trunk circuits 15 to Personal Agent processor 11 to enable the Personal Agent processor to determine from the subscriber database how the call should be treated. The only time the call controller 16 can establish a connection from a trunk to a Personal Agent subscriber's line card is if the call originates or is intercepted by the Personal Agent processor. The call controller 16 would recognize the Personal Agent's identity and enable the call to go through to the subscriber's selected station. This way, a caller wanting to reach the subscriber cannot by-pass the agent. The subscriber can also permit the Personal Agent to intercept incoming calls by selecting, say, the home telephone number as the main Personal Agent access number and directing all callers to use that number. Any calls

directed to the home telephone number would then be intercepted by the Personal Agent. The subscriber can also tailor his or her Personal Agent profile so that the agent intercepts call directed to only one network address. (emphasis added)(Tatchell, col. 9, ln. 24 – 58)

Thus, it is clear that, according to Tatchell's disclosure, all phone calls intended for a subscriber are intercepted by the Personal Assistant and first routed to and received by the switching center 10 before the telephone call is connected to the subscriber's line terminating at the subscriber's telephone. As Tatchell explains, all calls are routed through the Personal Assistant, either by being intercepted by the Personal Assistant before potentially being routed onto the subscriber's line (may be routed elsewhere depending on subscriber profile) or originating at the personal Assistant. That is, Tatchell expressly disclosed the telephone calls therein are not received by the alleged first telephone as claimed. Instead, the telephone calls are received by the Personal Assistant that makes routing determinations, including whether or not the alleged first telephone even ever receives the call.

As recited in Applicant's claims 1 and 13, the first telephone itself receives the telephone call and the computing device acts (e.g., determines the telephone call is intended for the first telephone...) on the telephone call received by the first telephone. Tatchell however discloses acting on telephone calls received at a switching center 10 (Tatchell, FIGS. 1, 2) and intercepted by Personal Assistant 11 (Tatchell, FIGS. 1, 2).

Thus, it is clear that the cited and relied upon Tatchell fails to disclose, at least, the claimed aspect of the computing device to determine a telephone call received by the first telephone from a first one of the plurality of other telephones is intended for a second one of the plurality of other telephones based on user-specified rules and to selectively route telephone call signals of the telephone call received by the first telephone and intended for the second one of the plurality of other telephones to the first telephone and the plurality of other telephones based on user-specified rules.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited and relied upon Tatchell fails to disclose all aspects of claims 1 and 13, as is required for a proper rejection under 35 USC 102(b). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 13

are not anticipated by Tatchell under 35 USC 102(b). Applicant further submits that claims 2 – 7 and 14 – 19 are also patentable over Tatchell for at least depending from a patentable base claim.

Furthermore, Applicant neither admits to, agrees with, nor acquiesces to any statements not specifically addressed in the present Response. While Applicant respectfully submits that the present Response is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action, Applicant reserves the right to argue any other statements of the Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-5985.

Respectfully submitted,

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